

Letter from Eliza Symonds Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 6, 1877, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. E. G. Bell to her son, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. A.M.B. Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont. May 6, 1877. My dear Alec:

By this time your lecture in New York will be over and we hope with your usual success. We hope too that you have got rid of the little ailment you complained of when you last wrote. Tomorrow possibly there may be some news of you. Since I wrote last a letter has arrived from Mabel which I shall reply to in a day or two.

I have not seen Mrs. Mancy? but Mary tells me that Mrs. O. had a telegram from you which settled the matter about the missing parcel which I am very glad of. We have been for some time expecting her to stay with us but she has not yet come. A New Haven Dalladrum of April 28th has been received with an account of your success in that place, and Papa "sent the Parisian paper "Galignani" to you during the week in which you would read your name, parentage and place of birth. I enclose in this another letter from Mr. Ellis which your father has replied to, stating your reasons for withholding the desired information at present. Your unmanageable bulk of correspondence, your expected marriage during the summer and probable visit to Europe in the autumn.

Papa is not going to attend the Ladies College this season. He has just been invited to give a series of lectures to the students of Kingston University during the winter. His acceptance will depend upon our being able to get any one to stay with your Cousins during 2 his absence in which case I am to accompany him. Your Aunt Ellen arrived safely at her journey's end, but jumped from summer to winter for it was quite so there. She was nearly frozen during the latter part of her travels, being quite unprovided with suitable wraps. All were well when she wrote. I shall be glad when she is back again for your Uncle seems quite nervous during her absence. He must be very lonely for Aileen is a good

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deal out. Papa has been two or three times and Mary has been there for nearly a week. When Papa was in town, for a five days stay your Uncle expressed himself as having entirely giving up all ideas of building. Imagine our astonishment when next day he came here with the builder to settle the site for a home. The contract was agreed to, signed in the presence of witnesses, the bricks ordered and the work was to been begun by this time. During this night the pendulum swung so far the other way that he was thoroughly unnerved and distressed at what he had done and went early next morning to try and break the contract. He did not go in yesterday, Papa being engaged, so as yet we are uncertain if he has succeeded in doing so. Not only that, but he gave notice to quit his present house so how they are going to manage we cannot at present see. Mrs. Ker (Lillie) is to be sent back to Brantford. Papa is going in tomorrow and may perhaps add a line before posting this. It is late so my darling goodbye. With dear love from all to yourself and Mabel.

Your affectionate Mother, E.G.Bell.